

REMARKS

Claims 1-19 and 47-55 are still pending in the patent application. Claims 20-46 and 56 are withdrawn.

Independent claim 1 is amended to substitute the term "vertically" with --only--.

To the extent that the rejection might be applied to claim 1, as amended, it is respectfully submitted that the Anderson et al. does not teach or suggest to move the ink jet printhead only perpendicular to the plane of the production path, instead moving both horizontally and vertically along arc 40 in Figure 1. The advantage of eliminating the horizontal component of movement is space savings, as well as a simpler mechanical movement.

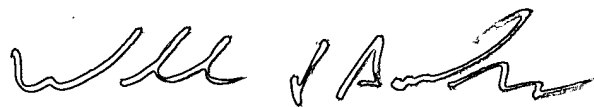
Dependent claims 3-4, 14-16, 48 and 51 are indicated to be allowable and thus are amended into independent claims to include their respective base independent claim 1 or 47, as well as any intervening dependent claim such as 2, 7 or 50. For example, claims 3 and 4 are amended to include the limitations of claims 1 and 2 (see redlined (i.e. shaded) material), claims 14-16 are amended to include the limitations of claims 1 and 7 (see redlined material), claim 48 is amended to include the limitations of claim 47 (see redlined material), and claim 51 is amended to include the limitations of claims 47 and 50 (see redlined material). These claims should all be in condition for allowance.

In claim 16, the limitation related to the horizontal movement of the printhead and added language make clear that the cleaning station control circuit horizontally moves the ink receptacle assembly. The specification is similarly amended on page 17, lines 11-20, to correct this inconsistency so the claims, specification and drawing are consistent with one another as a person skilled in the art would appreciate.

Claim 50 is also amended to read that the waste ink receptacle assembly slides within "the service station assembly", which is another name for the imager base in the patent application. See page 12, line 10, in the patent application.

For all these reasons, the patent application is deemed in condition for allowance and reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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